



## MINUTES

### Joint Committee of the CT Energy Efficiency Board and the Connecticut Green Bank Board of Directors

Wednesday, December 15, 2021  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Due to COVID-19, all participants joined via the conference call.

#### In Attendance

Voting Members: Victoria Hackett (DEEP), John Harrity, Lonnie Reed, Claire Sickinger, Brenda Watson

Non-Voting Members: Stephen Bruno, Bryan Garcia, Bert Hunter

Members Absent:, John Viglione, Donna Wells

Others: Giulia Bambara, Sergio Carrillo, Kate Donatelli, Mackey Dykes, Richard Faesy, Brian Farnen, Sara Harari, Ron Araujo and Joel Kopylec from Avangrid, George Lawrence, Cheryl Lumpkin, Glenn Reed, Joshua Ryor from PURA, Larry Rush, Ariel Schneider, Stacy Sherwood, Lisa Skumatz

Unnamed Callers: None

#### 1. Call to Order

Bryan Garcia called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

#### 2. Public Comments

No public comments.

#### 3. Board Matters – Welcome New Member and Chair Nomination and Election

- Bryan Garcia introduced Victoria Hackett from DEEP as a replacement for Michael Li. He also proposed Brenda Watson to serve as the Chair of the Joint Committee. Lonnie Reed nominated Brenda Watson and it was seconded by John Harrity. Brenda Watson accepted the nomination.

#### Resolution #1

Resolved that Brenda Watson has been elected by the Joint Committee in accordance with its bylaws to serve as its Chairperson.

**Upon a motion made by Lonnie Reed and seconded by John Harrity, the Joint Committee**

**voted to approve Resolution 1. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.**

### **Resolution #2**

Resolved that Vicki Hackett has been elected by the Joint Committee in accordance with its bylaws to serve as its Vice Chairperson.

**Upon a motion made by Lonnie Reed and seconded by John Harranty, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 2. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.**

4. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 16, 2021 meeting.

### **Resolution #3**

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for June 16, 2021.

**Upon a motion made by John Harranty and seconded by Lonnie Reed, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 3. None opposed and Victoria Hackett abstained. Motion approved.**

5. Joint Committee – Regular Meeting Schedule for 2022

- Bryan Garcia reviewed the Regular Meeting schedule for 2022 which are March 16, June 22, September 14, and December 14, 2022.
  - Brenda Watson asked if in-person meetings are being considered for 2022. Bryan Garcia answered that tentatively yes, but it is dependent on each person's comfort and safety given COVID-19.
  - Richard Faesy pointed out that the June 22 meeting conflicts with the CTAC meeting which may be an issue for DEEP.

### **Resolution #4**

Motion to approve the 2022 Regular Schedule of Meetings.

**Upon a motion made by Victoria Hackett and seconded by Lonnie Reed, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 4. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.**

6. Clean Energy Jobs Report 2021 – Release Plan

- Bryan Garcia summarized the history of the CT Clean Energy Industry Report and some updates to it, including a consideration to highlight Brenda Watson as the current Chairperson of the Joint Committee within the report. He also proposed ideas for a press release, webinar, and a 2022 report. He noted that BW Research was able to secure the funding for data collection through federal funding, so the Green Bank will not have to pay for that part for 2022.

- Brenda Watson commented that she does not want to take the credit of her predecessor, Eric Brown, within the report, so she's hesitant to accept a highlight of herself. Lonnie Reed suggested featuring both Eric Brown and Brenda Watson as the Chairpersons since it was developed during the transition from one to the next.
- Brenda Watson asked about the planned format of the webinar, whether it be joining other committees to present or by inviting others to one larger event. Lonnie Reed suggested a presentation tour across Connecticut. Bryan Garcia suggested developing a few slides so that committee members can really highlight it wherever they go.
- Glenn Reed noted that there will be references to the 2021 jobs report in the EEB's Annual Legislative Report.

## 7. Plan Coordination

### a. Input to FY 2022 Connecticut Green Bank Comprehensive Plan (Revisions)

- Bryan Garcia summarized the Green Bank's comprehensive plan updates. It has been a transition year between new BOD and Committee members, the conclusion of RSIP, the inclusion of the battery storage incentive program, and the development of environmental infrastructure. As well, a new target was established for no less than 40% of investments and benefits to vulnerable communities by 2025. The Green Liberty Bonds are continuing and expanding to include Green Liberty Notes. The Green Bank is also awaiting the finalization of the Infrastructure and Jobs Act and BBBA.

### b. 2022-2024 Conservation and Load Management Plan

- Glenn Reed summarized the 2022-2024 C&LM Plan priorities which are Energy Affordability, Decarbonization, and Equity. The prior plan priorities were adjusted to focus on those main three. There was significant stakeholder input considered for the 2022-2024 plan around several reoccurring themes.
- Glenn Reed reviewed the Plan Review Process which started in November. He summarized several of the three-year plan takeaways as well as some savings and benefits calculated. He highlighted some areas for the C&LM Plan and the Green Bank to continue to coordinate.
  - Brenda Watson asked about the change in priorities and significant stakeholder input. Glenn Reed answered that there has been a change in feedback with a stronger focus on electrification and heat pumps.
  - John Harrity asked if Connecticut had a program to assist people who needed new boilers for their homes and was wondering if those with old furnaces could receive under assistance under the new plan. Glenn Reed answered that there is not currently a broader fuel-switching heat pump program but there are other offerings available, and he reviewed several. Ron Arujo clarified that the programs mentioned are for gas heating equipment, not gas appliances. Stephen Bruno noted there are programs to support financing for heating equipment. John Harrity commented that there may be a gap in support for the average homeowner despite the offerings currently available. Victoria Hackett responded that some issues are being addressed by DEEP in the current C&LM Plan review, which is still just a proposed plan.

## 8. Equitable Modern Grid Framework – Overview by PURA

- Joshua Ryor presented the Equitable Modern Grid Initiative history and perspective which is framed around the idea of ensuring equitable outcomes which seems to be missing from other grid modernization efforts. He summarized the efforts made to be more equitable and inclusive. He then reviewed its objectives to enable economy-wide decarbonization, to make a more resilient, secure commodity, to advance energy affordability, and to support the growth of a green economy.
- Joshua Ryor summarized the topics that needed to be focused on to meet the objectives. There were 11 investigations done to determine topics, and the first six to focus on are energy affordability, advanced metering infrastructure, electric storage, zero emissions vehicles, innovation pilots, and interconnection standards. Of those six, the first three have their research concluded. He reviewed the next wave of topics to be investigated are non-wire alternatives, resilience & reliability standards & programs, distributed energy resource analysis & program review, and new rate designs.
- To date, a final decision was issued for Electric Storage on July 28, 2021. Joshua Ryor summarized the electric storage program plan. A final decision was issued for a Statewide EV Charging Program to support zero emissions vehicles as of July 14, 2021 and Joshua Ryor explained the elements of the program plan. He also summarized updates made to the other dockets that are currently in the progress.

#### 9. Plans for the 2022 Legislative Session

- Bryan Garcia summarized the items for the upcoming legislative session. The main priority of the Green Bank is to expand C-PACE to allow for resilience projects to be supported by the benefit assessment. Secondly, there is a policy to allow municipalities to move from 5-year to a 10-year contract for electric school buses.
- Victoria Hackett mentioned an upcoming executive order and that the legislative agenda is not yet finalized.

#### 10. Other Business

- Sergio Carrillo summarized the status of and updates to Residential Single Family programs. Mackey Dykes summarized updates to Residential Multifamily programs, SBEA program, Medium to Large Business programs, and Institutional programs. Stephen Bruno commented on the success of the SBEA and municipal programs.
  - John Harrity commented that he is pleased that the C-PACE program is increasing in popularity.

#### 11. Adjourn

**Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Lonnie Reed, the Joint Committee Meeting adjourned at 3:04 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Brenda Watson, Chairperson